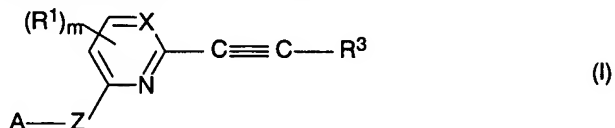


A P P E N D I X II:

THE AMENDED CLAIMS (clean version of all claims):

1. (currently amended) A method of combating undesired plant growth at a locus, comprising application to the locus of an effective amount of at least one compound of formula (I)



wherein

X represents N or CR²;

R¹ each independently represent a halogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyalkoxy group or a haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, cyano, nitro or SF₅ group; or -S(O)_p-R⁴, in which p is 0, 1 or 2, and R⁴ represents an alkyl or haloalkyl group; or -NR⁵R⁶, in which R⁵ and R⁶ each independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl, alkenyl, aralkyl or aryl group, or R⁷O-CY-, in which R⁷ represents an alkyl group, and Y represents O or S;

R² represents a hydrogen atom or has the meaning given for R¹;

R³ represents a hydrogen atom or a formyl group or an optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, trihydrocarbylsilyl or aryl group, or an optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered nitrogen-containing heteroaromatic group;

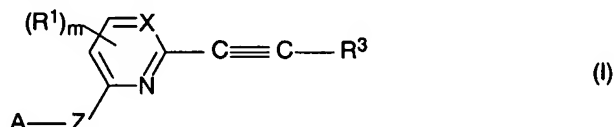
A represents an optionally substituted aryl group, an optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered nitrogen-containing heteroaromatic group or an optionally substituted thienyl group;

Z represents an oxygen or sulfur atom; and

m is 0, 1 or 2;

or an agronomically acceptable salt or N-oxide thereof.

2. (currently amended) A compound of formula (I)



wherein

X represents N or CR²;

R¹ each independently represent a halogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, al-

koxyalkoxy group or a haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, cyano, nitro or SF_5 group; or $-\text{S}(\text{O})_p-\text{R}^4$, in which p is 0, 1 or 2, and R^4 represents an alkyl or haloalkyl group; or $-\text{NR}^5\text{R}^6$, in which R^5 and R^6 each independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl, alkenyl, aralkyl or aryl group, or $\text{R}^7\text{O}-\text{CY}-$, in which R^7 represents an alkyl group, and Y represents O or S;

R^2 represents a hydrogen atom or has the meaning given for R^1 ;

R^3 represents a hydrogen atom or a formyl group or an optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, trihydrocarbylsilyl or aryl group, or an optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered nitrogen-containing heteroaromatic group;

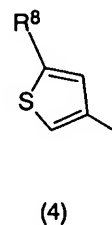
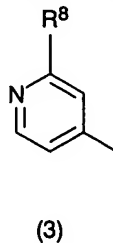
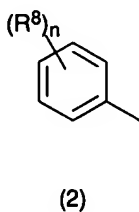
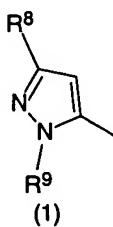
A represents an optionally substituted aryl group, an optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered nitrogen-containing heteroaromatic group or an optionally substituted thienyl group;

Z represents an oxygen or sulfur atom; and

m is 1 or 2;

or an agronomically acceptable salt or N-oxide thereof.

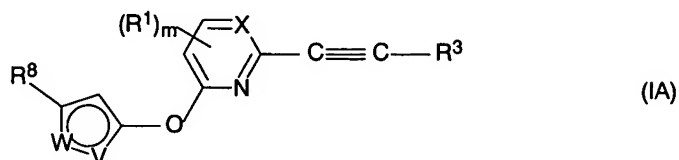
3. (original) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein Z represents an oxygen atom.
4. (original) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein R^3 represents a phenyl group being optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms or alkyl or haloalkyl groups.
5. (original) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein R^3 represents a C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{2-6} alkenyl group being optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms and/or C_{1-4} alkoxy groups.
6. (original) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein A represents an optionally substituted phenyl, pyridyl, thienyl or pyrazolyl group.
7. (original) A compound as claimed in claim 6, wherein A represents a group selected from formulae (1), (2), (3), and (4):



wherein

- R⁸ each independently represents a halogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkoxy or thioalkyl group;
R⁹ represents an alkyl group; and
n represents an integer of 1 to 5.

8. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 2 which is of formula IA



wherein

- R³ represents a formyl group or an alkyl, alkenyl group or an optionally substituted aryl or 5- or 6-membered nitrogen-containing heteroaromatic group;
W-V represents N-CH, S-CH, N-CH-CH, CH-CH-CH or N-NR⁹;
m is 1;
R⁸ represents a halogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkoxy or thioalkyl group; and
R⁹ represents an alkyl group.
9. (currently amended) A compound selected from the group consisting of
2-(1-methyl-3-trifluoromethyl-pyrazol-5-yloxy)-4-methyl-6-(2-phenylethynyl)-pyridine;
4-(1-methyl-3-trifluoromethyl-pyrazol-5-yloxy)-6-methyl-2-(2-phenylethynyl)-pyrimidine;
2-(1-methyl-3-trifluoromethyl-pyrazol-5-yloxy)-6-(2-phenylethynyl)-pyridine;
4-methoxy-2-(1-methyl-3-trifluoromethyl-pyrazol-5-yloxy)-6-(2-phenylethynyl)-pyridine;
2-(1-methyl-3-trifluoromethyl-pyrazol-5-yloxy)-4-methyl-6-(2-trimethylsilylethynyl)-pyridine;
2-(1-methyl-3-trifluoromethyl-pyrazol-5-yloxy)-4-methyl-6-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-ethynyl]-pyridine;
2-(1-methyl-3-trifluoromethyl-pyrazol-5-yloxy)-4-methyl-6-[2-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-ethynyl]-pyridine;
6-ethynyl-2-(1-methyl-3-trifluoromethylpyrazol-5-yloxy)-4-methyl-pyridine;

2-(1-methyl-3-trifluoromethyl-pyrazol-5-yloxy)-4-methyl-6-(4-methylpent-1-yn-3-enyl)-pyridine;

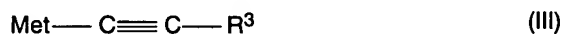
2-(1-methyl-3-trifluoromethyl-pyrazol-5-yloxy)-4-methyl-6-(3,3-diethoxyprop-1-ynyl)-pyridine; and

2-(1-methyl-3-trifluoromethyl-pyrazol-5-yloxy)-4-methyl-6-(2-formylethynyl)-pyridine.

10. (*currently amended*) A process for the preparation of the compound of formula I according to claim 2, which comprises reacting a respective compound of formula II,

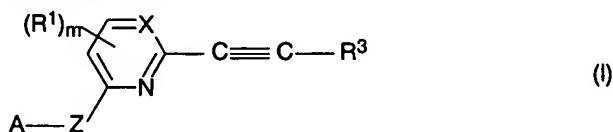


in which L represents a suitable leaving group, with a compound of formula III,



in which Met represents a hydrogen or metal atom or an alkylmetal group.

11. (*currently amended*) A herbicidal composition comprising a herbicidally effective amount of at least one compound of formula I according to claim 2 and a carrier.
12. (*original*) A composition as claimed in claim 11, comprising at least two carriers, at least one of which is a surface-active agent.
13. (*canceled*)
14. (*new*) A herbicidal composition comprising a herbicidally effective amount of at least one compound according to claim 9 and a carrier.
15. (*new*) A compound of formula (I)



wherein

X represents N or CR²;

R¹ each independently represent a halogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxyalkoxy group or a haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, cyano, nitro or

SF₅ group; or -S(O)_p-R⁴, in which p is 0, 1 or 2, and R⁴ represents an alkyl or haloalkyl group; or -NR⁵R⁶, in which R⁵ and R⁶ each independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl, alkenyl, aralkyl or aryl group, or R⁷O-CY-, in which R⁷ represents an alkyl group, and Y represents O or S;

R² represents a hydrogen atom or has the meaning given for R¹;

R³ represents a formyl group or an optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, trihydrocarbylsilyl or aryl group, or an optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered nitrogen-containing heteroaromatic group;

A represents an optionally substituted aryl group, an optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered nitrogen-containing heteroaromatic group or an optionally substituted thienyl group;

Z represents an oxygen or sulfur atom; and

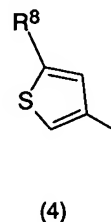
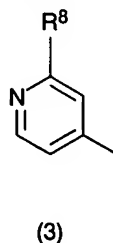
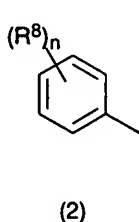
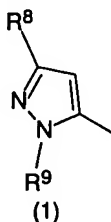
m is 0, 1 or 2;

with the proviso, that

bis-[2-(2-trimethylsilylethynyl)pyrid-6-yloxy]-1,3-benzene and bis-[2-(3,3-dimethyl-3-hydroxyprop-1-ynyl)-pyrid-6-yloxy]-1,3-benzene are excluded;

or an agronomically acceptable salt or N-oxide thereof.

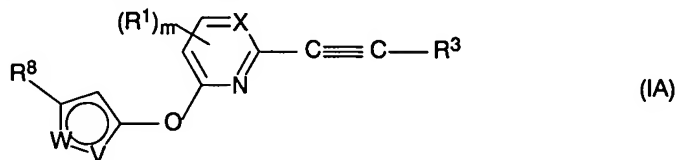
16. (new) A compound according to claim 15, wherein R³ represents a phenyl group being optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms or alkyl or haloalkyl groups.
17. (new) A compound according to claim 15, wherein R³ represents a C₁₋₆ alkyl or C₂₋₆ alkenyl group being optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms and/or C₁₋₄ alkoxy groups.
18. (new) A compound according to claim 15, wherein A represents an optionally substituted phenyl, pyridyl, thienyl or pyrazolyl group.
19. (new) A compound according to claim 18, wherein A represents a group selected from formulae (1), (2), (3), and (4):



wherein

- R^8 each independently represents a halogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkoxy or thioalkyl group;
 R^9 represents an alkyl group; and
 n represents an integer of 1 to 5.

20. (new) A compound according to claim 15 which is of formula IA



wherein

- R^3 represents a formyl group or an alkyl, alkenyl group or an optionally substituted aryl or 5- or 6-membered nitrogen-containing heteroaromatic group;
W-V represents N-CH, S-CH, N-CH-CH, CH-CH-CH or N-NR⁹;
 m is 0 or 1;
 R^8 represents a halogen atom or an optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkoxy or thioalkyl group; and
 R^9 represents an alkyl group.